

CLAIMS:

1. A method for establishing an emergency call between a user equipment within a radio coverage area and one of at least two points able to answer the call, the method comprising:

receiving said emergency call request;

determining a first estimate of the position of said user equipment within said coverage area;

interrupting said call establishment by triggering a control point; and

using the control point to select, based on said first position estimate, which one of said at least two answering points the call is established with.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein when said at least one answering point has been selected, said switching centre resumes said call establishment and a second more accurate position estimate is determined and sent to said selected answering point.

3. The method according to any preceding claim, wherein non-call associated signalling is used wherein messages used to select the at least one of the two answering points during call establishment are separate from the messages used for the established call itself.

4. The method according to any preceding claim, wherein said selecting is done using the control point for translates the first position estimate which is a geographical position into a routing number of the selected answering point.

5. The method according to any preceding claim, wherein the first position estimate is determined by using an identifier of said radio coverage area and timing advance information.

6. A communications system for establishing an emergency call between a user equipment and an emergency call processing centre, the system being configured to establish the call according to the method of claim 1.

7. A communications network for establishing an emergency call between a user equipment within a radio coverage area and one of at least two points able to answer the call, the network comprising:

- a base controller for controlling a base transceiver that provides said radio coverage area;

- a switching centre for receiving said emergency call request;

- a location centre for determining a first estimate of the position of said user equipment within said coverage area; and

- a control point for selecting which of said at least two answering points the call is established with based on said first position estimate and wherein the control point is triggered by interrupting said call establishment.

8. The network according to claim 7, wherein when said at least one answering point has been selected, said switching centre resumes said call establishment and a second more accurate position estimate is determined and sent to said selected answering point.

9. The network according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the switching centre comprises means for identifying events during the call establishment.

10. The network according to claim 9, wherein said identifying means is arranged to identify the event when the first estimated position has been determined, and when said event is identified said call establishment is interrupted and said control point is triggered.

11. The network according to any of claims 7 to 10, wherein the at least two answering points are emergency call processing centres.

12. The network according to any of claims 7 to 11, wherein the control point is a GSM service control point.
13. The network according to any of claims 7 to 12, wherein the network further comprising a gateway location centre for providing an interface between said network and said at least two answering points.
14. The network according to any of claims 7 to 13, wherein the control point comprising a coordinate routing database for mapping a geographical position of said first position estimate to said selected answering point.
15. The network according to any of claims 7 to 14, wherein the location centre is located within said base controller.
16. The network according to any of claims 7 to 15, where in the location centre is located separate from said base controller.